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Introduction

[image]

Icestar's Misery

"Death and suffering will be unleashed upon this clan, but if a cat holds fast and looks for the good like ice trying not to melt it may save us all."

By: Onya Veran (This is a group name)

Icestar's Misery

Will the ice stay frozen?

(Same highlight = Mates)

(The letters after the kits names are who their parents are)

Allegiances:

ThunderClan

Leader:

Thistlestar - A black and white tom with blue eyes *9/9*

Deputy:

Ravenpelt- A black tom with long fur and amber eyes

Warriors:

Cloudstorm- A white and orange tom with green eyes

Dapplefur- A brindle she-cat with hazel eyes

Jayclaw- A silver tabby tom with icy blue eyes

Hazelmist- A gray she-cat with a white underbelly and hazel eyes

Stormfur- A light brown tom with dark blue eyes

Cherrypelt- A white she-cat with pink eyes (Albino)

Ivytail- A light gray tom with green eyes

Goldenstorm- A yellow tabby tom with yellow eyes

Frozencloud - A blue-ish gray-ish she-cat with blue eyes

Frozenflower - a blue-ish gray-ish she-cat with yellow eyes

Coolbreeze - a brown she-cat with hazel eyes

Breezepelt - a white she-cat with blue eyes

Morningfur - a light brown tabby she-cat with hazel eyes

Fuzzyheart- Long furred cream tom with green eyes

Queens:

Flowertail -A cream she-cat with blue eyes

Fallleaf - A calico she-cat with brown eyes (Taken in with her kit, Leafkit after being exiled from shadowclan) (Mate is still in shadowclan)

Quietbreeze- A dark gray she-cat with blue eyes

Brownfur - a brown she-cat with amber eyes

Lina - a white she cat with brown eyes (expecting)

Kits:

Snowkit(rose)- A white she-cat with green eyes *0m* **FC**

Skykit(storm)- A white tom with orange spots and green eyes *0m*

FC

Icekit(cloud)- A white she-cat with blue eyes *0m* **FC**

Leafkit (tail)- a calico she-cat with blue eyes *3m* **FB**

Amberkit(eyes)- a dark brown and cream colored she-cat with amber eyes *3m* **BR**

Apprentices:

Puffpaw(pelt): Sand-color tom-cat with amber eyes.

Grasspaw(claw)- A light brown tom with green eyes

Whitepaw(fur) - a white tom-cat with blue eyes

Elders:

Darksong- A black she-cat with white stripes and blue eyes

Coldtail- A light brown she-cat with a white tail and green eyes

Robinheart- A gray tom with amber eyes

Medicine Cat:

Sweettail - A cream she-cat with white freckles and green eyes

Medicine Cat Apprentice:

Sparrowpaw- A brown tabby tom with brown eyes (Adopted by the Clan)

ShadowClan:

Leader:

Brindlestar- A brindle she-cat with light blue eyes *8/9*

Deputy:

Pineneedle- A dark brown she-cat with amber eyes

Warriors:

Fernfur- A light gray she-cat with a white chest and has blue eyes

Brackenpelt- A golden brown tom with hazel eyes

Snakefang- A brown tortoiseshell tom with light brown eyes

Brushfur- A brindle she-cat with amber eyes

Moonwatcher- A black she-cat with white spots on her face behind her eyes and has dark green eyes

Wolfheart- A dark gray tom with white paws and chest with blue eyes

Mouseflight- A small dusky brown tom with a long tail and has hazel eyes

Nightshadow- A black she-cat with long fur and hazel eyes (Former mate: Boulderlcaw)

Foxtail- A ginger tabby tom with green eyes and a white tail tip

Ratclaw- A large scruffy gray tom with a long tail and has hazel eyes (Brother: Mouseflight?)

Ambereyes- A light brown tabby she-cat with bright amber eyes

Mudwhisker- A dark brown tom with light brown eyes

Boulderclaw- A light gray tom with dark green eyes (Former mate: Nightshadow)

Queens:

Brightmoon - A silvery-gray-ish she-cat with yellow eyes

Roseleaf- A red tortoiseshell she-cat with cream spots and has bright green eyes

Kits:

Moonkit- A silver she-cat with hazel eyes *4m*

Owlkit- A large gray tom with a long tail and has hazel eyes *4m*

Flamekit- An orange tabby tom with a cream paw and has green eyes *2m*

Juniperkit- A red-orange she-cat with green eyes *2m*

Berrykit- An orange tabby she-cat with cream paws and has bright green eyes *2m*

Apprentices:

Tawnypaw(face)- A brindle she-cat with light brown eyes

Bramblepaw(ear)- A brown tabby tom with light brown eyes

Crowpaw(flight)- A black tom with dark green eyes and has long fur

Wolfpaw(tooth)- black tabby she-cat with yellow eyes

Elders:

Sunfall- A golden brown tom with bright amber eyes

Thistlepelt- An old scruffy brown tom w/ a long tail and has hazel eyes

Medicine Cat:

Shimmerraven- A black she-cat with small white spots and has hazel eyes

Medicine Cat Apprentice:

Twistedpaw(gorse)- A brindle tom with blue eyes and has a twisted hind paw

Riverclan:

Leader:

Fogstar- An old light gray tom with blue eyes *1/9*

Deputy:

Splashpuddle- A blue gray she-cat with bright blue eyes

Warriors:

Ottertail- A light brown tom with brown eyes and has a dark brown tail tip

Cloverleaf- A brown tortoiseshell she-cat with green eyes

Pebblefern- A light gray she-cat with bright blue eyes

Starlingfeather- A black she-cat with long fur and has yellow eyes

Reedtail- A dark brown tabby tom with amber eyes

Stripefur- A gray tom with light gray stripes and paws with dark blue eyes

Fishpelt- A silver tabby she-cat with white paws and has bright blue eyes

Rainwing- A cream she-cat with red paws and red tail tip and has green eyes

Troutface- A sleek light brown tom with dark brown spots and has amber eyes

Spottedleap- A small and agile white she-cat with small gray spots and has hazel eyes

Stoneclaw- A large blue-gray tom with a long scar down his face and has very dark blue eyes

Turtletail- A white she-cat with large orange spots and has a short tail and has green eyes

Queens:

Blossompetal- A white she-cat with light gray spots and has green

eyes

Mint- A black she-cat with large white spots and has green eyes (formerly a loner)

Duskwhisker- A dark gray she-cat with amber eyes (expecting kits)

Kits:

Lillykit (stripe) - A tan she cat has an abnormally green-ish stripe on her back with green eyes

Breezekit (fur) - brown tabby she-cat with light brown stripes and has yellow eyes

Apprentices:

Oakpaw- a brown tabby tom with brown eyes

Elders:

Dustfur- A tan tom with light brown eyes (Formerly a kittypet[Former name: Leggz])

Whiskerpelt- A cream tom with white spots and has a one green and one blue eye

Medicine Cat:

Treetail - An old brown tabby she-cat with green eyes

Medicine Cat Apprentice:

Pondpaw - A white-ish grey-ish tom cat with blue eyes

Windclan:

Leader:

Stormstar- A light gray tom with a few dark gray stripes and blue eyes *7/9*

Deputy:

Sunstripe- A light tan tom with a yellow stripe down his back and blue eyes

Warriors:

Mudpelt - A tabby tom with brown eyes

Moonprowl - A calico she-cat with amber eyes

Dawnthorn- A dark gray she-cat with dark orange paws and tail tip and has light brown eyes

Sorrelheart- A brown she-cat with dark brown and white spots and has amber eyes

Heatherbreeze- A sandy yellow she-cat with a white chest and has lavender eyes

Silentfire- A red tortoiseshell tom with dark orange eyes

Sootfall- a dark brown tom with dark orange eyes

Leafdream- A mottled brown she-cat with hazel eyes **SS**

Foxclaw- A orange tom with black paws, muzzle, and the tip of tail and brown eyes with one long claw

Moonfur - A black-ish blue she-cat with dark blue eyes

Sorrelpelt - Brown she cat with black spots and has light blue eyes **SS**

Lizardpelt- a white tom with small gray spots and has blue eyes

Owlfeather- a black she-cat with long fur and has yellow-green
Queens:

Rainpelt - A blue-ish grey-ish colored she cat with blue eyes

Lightwhisker - A white she-cat with amber eyes (only has a few whiskers) Brother: Lizard

Roseviper- A large ginger tabby she-cat with one green and one

amber eye (Former mate: Piketalon)

Kits:

Springkit- a gray-ish colored she-cat with blue eyes **RM**

Ravenkit- A dark blue tom with yellow eyes **RM**

Spiritkit- An orange tom with white spots and a black tail, has amber eyes **LF**

Hopekit- A white she-cat with amber eyes **LF**

Wishkit- A white she-cat with an orange paw and has brown eyes **LF**

Cloverkit(ear)- a sandy yellow she cat with green eyes (has chipped ears) **RP**

Apprentices:

Robinpaw- A red tortoiseshell she-cat with dark orange **SL**

Spiderpaw- A mottled brown tom with dark orange eyes **SL**

Finchpaw- A light brown she-cat with hazel eyes **SL**

Elders:

Hazelleg - An orange tabby with brown stripes and has green eyes

Batnut- A cream she-cat with dark gray spots and has green eyes

Clearpool- A silver tabby she-cat with green eyes

Medicine Cat:

Nettlethroat- A golden brown tom tom with amber eyes

Cats Outside The Clan

Kat - a white she cat with green eyes (lives with two-legs)

Cream - A white she cat with blue eyes (lives with two-legs)

Lonesoul- A very dark gray she-cat with black underbelly and light gray eyes (rouge)

Stingray- A white tom with gray spots and some stripes and has gray-blue eyes (formerly a Thunderclan warrior [left])

Willowstar - a black tom-cat with blue-ish grey-ish stripes with green eyes (old thunderclan leader [exiled])

Azalea - a sandy yellow cat with a brown tail and white chest also has dark blue eyes (loner)

Piketalon- A large sandy-yellow tom with shredded ears and long scars down his face and back and has green eyes (exiled from WindClan[former mate: Roseviper {daughter: Cloverkit}] Rogue)

Prologue

Windclan and Thunderclan cats stood hissing at each other, digging their claws into the ground.

"This is our territory, Stormstar!" Thistlestar hissed.

"Would you really do this to us, Thistlestar? After we let you steal OUR prey?" Stormstar hissed back in reply.

"YOUR prey? We have loyal warriors, they wouldn't do that." Thistlestar replied, looking at Ravenpelt, knowing that this fight could not be settled with words.

Meanwhile, back at the camp, Cloudstorm padded into the medicine cat den. Noticing Sweettail pacing back and forth inside he asked, "What are you thinking about?"

"Nothing, I just got a new prophecy from Starclan, I'm debating whether I should tell. This is really important," Sweettail replied. "I already told Sparrowpaw," Sweettail looked at Cloudstorm, "I know I shouldn't be telling you this but, it has something to do with one of your kits."

Ravenpelt was screeching in agony as Mudpelt scratched his throat out.

"Ravenpelt!" Thistlestar mewed running into Mudpelt trying to get him off of his helpless deputy, Ravenpelt. Although he was successful, it was too late to save poor Ravenpelt.

"Which kit is it?!" Cloudstorm asked Sweettail, alarmed.

Sweettail's eyes glazed over and she meowed in a hollow voice, "Death and suffering will be unleashed upon this clan, but if a cat holds fast and looks for the good like ice trying not to melt it may save us all."

Chapter 1

Icekit woke up in the nursery. The pale white she-cat could hear the birds whistling up in the trees surrounding. She could hear the chattering of the other cats in the camp.

"Her litter mates have already managed to come out of the nursery," Cloudstorm, her father, hissed, "She might be a waste to the clan!"

Icekit felt an icy prickle on her fur. She thought that she was going to be loved in her first moments. But her older sister Snowkit and her brother Skykit were the only lights of her father's life.

"Don't be so harsh, Cloudstorm, she's only a kit! You never know, she may be stronger than Snowkit and Skykit." Flowertail, Icekit's mother mewed. However, Icekit felt a slight fear scent from her mother and sounded like she was also trying to convince herself.

Flowertail wrapped her tail around Icekit and whispered in her ear, "Don't take your father so seriously, he is just an old badger."

Skykit started running and jumping around the nursery and landed right on top of Icekit. Icekit tried to swat him away. However, Skykit was almost twice her size.

"Get off me!", Icekit mewed, "please!"

"Pfft, come on," Cloudstorm muttered, "You think that small tiny kit can be stronger than Skykit?"

"She's still a kit, you know!" Flowertail hissed back.

Icekit tried to squirm away to get away from Skykit.

"Ha! Flowertail open your eyes! Skykit is the one that has a gift!" Cloudstorm announced. Cloudstorm's praise made Skykit puff out his chest.

"Everyone old enough to catch their own prey, meet under high rock for a clan meeting" The clan leader, Thistlestar suddenly yelled.

"Ha! Race you there!" Skykit mewed to Icekit and Snowkit, he was determined to prove that his father was right and he did have a gift.

"We'll see!" Snowkit mewed with excitement as they headed out of the nursery.

"W-wait for me!" Icekit mewed, "I'm not as big or fast as you guys yet!"

Icekit finally tottered to the place where Flowertail had settled. Skykit and Snowkit had been there for a while and were happily settled down next to their father. Skykit started snickering seeing how much later Icekit had arrived.

"Today, we are glad to announce that three new kits have been born. This is a great addition to the clan, and they are the future of this very clan." Thistlestar meowed. All eyes in the clan turned onto Snowkit, Icekit, and Skykit. As Icekit looked around at the warm smiles Icekit, for the first time, felt pride in her life. She felt important.

However the moment of pride didn't last long as Icekit could hear her father muttering, she could already tell it was nothing good about her. She strained her ears trying to make out what her father was saying but Thistlestar continued.

"Not only do we have three new strong kits, but I would also like to announce that Grasskit and Puffkit are now 6 moons old. It is now time for them to become apprentices," Thistlestar meowed. Icekit turned her head to look at Grasskit and Puffkit who were standing in front of the group that had gathered, shaking with excitement. She could see not far from her was Quietwind, their mother and Stormpelt, their father looking on proudly.

Thistlestar then looked at the kits in front of the rock and called, "Grasskit, come forward."

Grasskit excitedly looked around and padded forward until he stood beneath Clanrock.

Thistlestar looked around the clan until his gaze fell on Barkfur. "Barkfur," he meowed, "You have served your clan well and are a fine warrior. I know you will pass on your skills to Grasspaw."

Grasspaw purred at his new name and then bounded over to Barkfur to touch noses before sitting back down.

Once Barkfur and Grasspaw sat back down Thistlestar's gaze rested on Puffkit. Puffkit didn't wait for Thistlestar to call him forward; he immediately raced to his paws and paced across the clearing proudly.

Thistlestar let out a purr as Puffkit stood below the rock with his chest puffed out then continued, "Sweetnose, you are a skilled warrior and I know you will give Puffpaw the training he needs to become an amazing warrior."

Puffpaw trotted toward Sweetnose, a little less confident than before, to touch noses with her.

As Icekit watched the new apprentices she felt a prick of envy. Icepaw couldn't wait until *SHE* became an apprentice, and then maybe even a leader!

The clan started chanting the new apprentice's names, "Grasspaw! Puffpaw! Grasspaw! Puffpaw!"

Icekit started to daydream her clan chanting her name, "Icepaw! Icepaw!" Although it felt impossible showing that her father wasn't very fond of her small size, she still believed that maybe, just maybe, she will become leader of the clan.

"Another announcement," Thistlestar mewed in a somber tone, "As you know, Ravenpelt, our old deputy, has died in battle. I have done a lot of thinking, and I hope Ravenpelt would have agreed with my choice. Welcome our new deputy, Cloudstorm!"

Cloudstorm's eyes shined with pride. Skykit looked up at his father and he showed the same expression.

"Thank you, Thistlestar, I will be worthy of my duty," Cloudstorm meowed boldly.

As Icekit looked across the clearing she noticed that Jayclaw's eyes were lit with fury and Icekit wondered why he didn't approve of Cloudstorm becoming the new deputy.

The clan started chanting his name, "Cloudstorm! Cloudstorm!" Icekit was chanting her fathers name with pride, although he wasn't too fond of her, she still felt joy that her father was deputy.

This could be his chance to become leader and maybe if I prove myself to him he'll make me deputy! Icekit thought to herself.

There was pride all over the clan, but Icekit could tell Jayclaw's fury was growing even more.

"We should now share tongues to celebrate" Thisleclaw meowed.

Flowertail muttered, "That isn't really usual, maybe it has something to do with the deputy and the new apprentices."

Icekit didn't seem to pay attention to her mother muttering, her gaze was fixed on Cloudstorm. She was wondering if her father would mind if she talked to him. Icekit ignored her fear

He's my father he won't get mad if I congratulate him

Icekit proudly walked to the center of the camp and sat next to her father, who was talking to Skykit about fighting techniques. Icekit was waiting for a chance to congratulate her father when Jayclaw went up to Cloudstorm, interrupting his conversation. "Congratulations. Would you like to go hunting with me?" Jayclaw asked quietly. Icekit could barely over hear the conversation. Icekit then wondered if Jayclaw was still mad that Cloudstorm was deputy, but quickly shook off the thought. Clan mates are happy for each other, right?

Before Icekit could finish convincing herself that Jayclaw wasn't mad, she saw him clawing at the ground.

"I have to hunt with the new deputy. Am I right?"

"I guess so," Cloudstorm replied back. Icekit heard that Jayclaw and Cloudstorm weren't the closest, but they couldn't be enemies.

Thistlestar came up to them pulling Icekit from her thoughts. "Cloudstorm, since you are now the deputy, you need to create all of the patrols." Thistlestar mewed.

"Of course," Couldstorm meowed, "Jayclaw and I are going to be hunting together and Dapplefur, Ivytail, and Fluffyheart can go on a border patrol." Cloudstorm called out to the cats in the clearing as they started to get into their groups.

Cloudstorm and Jayclaw then walked out of the hollow to go hunting, leaving the three kits and their mother. He didn't turn back to say goodbye and Icekit couldn't shake the creepy feeling Jayclaw had given her.

Chapter 2

"Cloudstorm...", Jayclaw mewed slowly once they were deep into the forest away from the camp. "Have you ever experienced, I don't know, *misery*?"

Confused by the question, Cloudstorm responded, "No. Why do you ask?"

The moment he answered that question Jayclaw jumped on him, growling while showing his teeth. Cloudstorm kicked Jayclaw off him and rolled back onto his feet.

"What are you doing?!" Cloudstorm hissed.

"I want to become deputy, and the only thing stopping me is you!" Jayclaw hissed back clawing at Cloudstorm's muzzle. Cloudstorm being hardly bigger than Jayclaw managed to push him away, but Jayclaw didn't stop. He pounced on Cloudstorm and rolled him onto his back. Jayclaw churned his hind paws on Couldstorms stomach while he Cloudstorm tried to wiggle free.

"I will finally get what I deserve without you in the way," Jayclaw snarled before lunging at Couldstars neck and trying to deal a final blow..

Chapter 3

Icekit heard a bit of racket outside and decided to venture out of the camp, breaking the warrior code. She followed the sound of crashing until it suddenly stopped. As Icekit kept walking in the direction of where the noise had come from she opened into a clearing. However when she came out she saw Jayclaw on top of Cloustorm, blood dripping from his jaws.

"D-d-dad? C-c-cloudstorm..?", Icekit mewed nervously, "A-are you guys fighting?"

"Icekit! You're not supposed to be out of camp!" Jayclaw hissed.

Icekit backed away in horror as she watched her father and Jayclaw staring at each other intensely. She didn't know what to do, she was horrified.

"Great Starclan! What a petty little kit!" Jayclaw hissed as he started to run towards her.

"Icekit! Jayclaw!" Thistlestar growled suddenly stepping into the clearing. "What happened?" Thistlestar asked Jayclaw in the calmest way he could, but Icekit could smell worry and fear scent from him. When no one answered Thistlestar's question he ordered, "Jayclaw, meet me by the high rock. Icekit, you go get Sweettail, the medicine cat, so we can get Cloudstorm healed. We already lost a deputy, I can't lose another."

"Wait no, please don't exile me!" Jayclaw pleaded, "He attacked me first!"

Icekit was surprised, a strong and angry warrior suddenly bowing down and pleading for mercy.

"Interesting," Thistlestar said thoughtfully, "Cloudstorm has never attacked someone before. Come to the camp and we will discuss

this terrible problem."

"No" Dappletail wailed from inside the camp, "Cloudstorm is dead!"

Jayclaw, Thistlestar, and Icekit walked into the clearing to see Dappletail standing over Cloudstorm's dead body. Jayclaw looked at Dappletail and at Thistlestar with sadness in his gaze. Icekit was frozen in shock. How could he act so sad? He was the one who had done it! Then Icekit realized he was trying to trick them into thinking he didn't kill him.

"Thistlestar, I need to tell you something" Icekit meowed quietly.

"What?" Thistlestar asked.

"Owww." Jayclaw groaned in pain, taking Thistlestar's attention. Jayclaw quickly gave Icekit a glare filled with fury and warning behind Thistlestar's back.

"Jayclaw, go to the medicine cat for help before we discuss." Thistlestar ordered with a hint of annoyance before turning his attention back to Icekit.

Icekit, what do you want to discuss?" Thistlestar meowed gently.

"Cloudstorm didn't attack him!" Icekit exclaimed.

"Icekit, are you sure? I know that you are upset, but Jayclaw is a loyal warrior." Thistlestar said in a soft voice.

"Please believe me!" Icekit begged.

"We will have a meeting. Hurry, go to my den." Thistlestar said loudly, so Jayclaw could hear too.

"Meet me in my den. I need to see Cloudstorm," Thistlestar whispered to Icekit before crossing the clearing.

Icekit headed toward Thistlestar's den while the clan crowded around Cloudstorm's body. She stopped to take a deep breath, trying to calm herself.

It's okay, Cloudstorm is fine Dappletail was probably just making a big deal about it, everything is going to be okay. Icekit told herself silently

As Icekit was crossing the clearing she heard Skykit hiss from the nursery, "There you are! You're not supposed to be outside the nursery right now, but you're probably not going to listen. You're just trouble."

"I'm not!" Icekit hissed back at her brother.

Skykit looked back into the nursery at Brownfur, who was supposed to be watching Flowertail's kits as she dealt with Cloudstorm. However, Brownfur was curled up in her nest, still mourning the death of her mate Ravenpelt.

Skykit stalked up to Icekit, assuming Brownfur wouldn't notice. "You are a tiny trouble maker and you always will be." Skykit growled at Icekit towering over her, "And Flowertail is going to be mad when she comes back. You broke the warrior code by leaving the camp. You aren't ever going to become a warrior, you're too small and you can't ever follow the rules."

"Watch me!" Icekit hissed at Skykit, "I'm going to become leader. Just you wait." Icekit then turned around and raced toward Thistlestar's den as Skykit went back into the nursery.

Why does everyone seem to hate me? Icekit wondered as she neared the den.

Suddenly, a strong paw shoved her sideways. Icekit stumbled back onto her paws before looking at who had pushed her. Jayclaw faced her teeth bared. "Puny little kit. Say a word about what you saw in the meeting and you will pay like your father," Jayclaw threatened as he unsheathed his claws.

Icekit nodded slowly. She had seen what he did to Cloudstorm, and she didn't want the same to happen to her. Especially since she wasn't even close to being a warrior.

Chapter 4

"Now tell me what happened," Thistlestar meowed, facing Jayclaw.

"Well, I was out hunting with Cloudstorm, and I was stalking a squirrel when suddenly I felt claws digging into my back. I heard Cloudstorm whispering into my ear. He told me that he had finally gotten what he wanted and now all that was left was to kill me. I didn't know what to do, so I threw him off and tried to block his attacks but, he's bigger than me. I had to try to fight him to protect myself," Jayclaw lied.

"Okay. Then why, when I came, were you chasing Icekit?" Thistlestar questioned.

There was a small glimpse of fear in Jayclaw's eye before he came up with the lie, "Well, she was out of the camp and I didn't want her to see her father fighting me, so I tried to calm her down. However, she was scared and ran. I didn't want her to run farther into the forest so I was chasing her to try to get her back to the camp."

"Is this true?" Thistlestar asked Icekit. Icekit didn't know what to say. She knew that Jayclaw killed Cloudstorm, but Jayclaw's warning echoed in her brain. Just as she was about to tell the truth Jayclaw caught her eye and glared at her. She needed to lie to protect herself. Besides, even if Thistlestar did exile him he would still find a way to kill her. She could tell all he wanted was power and Icekit had to stop him, but she wasn't big enough yet.

"Is it the truth?" Thistlestar asked again this time with a little impatience

"Yes, what he said is true," Icekit responded unwillingly.

But I know it's not the truth, and as long as I know you, you won't be safe, Icekit silently threatened.

Jayclaw looked at her with victory in his eyes as he padded out of the leader's den.

Thistlestar mewed gently to Icekit, "You should go back to your mother."

Icekit nodded. But before she left she whispered to Thistlestar, "I really saw it! I just said it was true because I was nervous about what was going to happen if I told the truth in front of him!"

Thistlestar looked at her, surprised. "I have known Jayclaw my entire life, he wouldn't do such a thing. He may be ambitious, but he is probably the most loyal warrior in the four clans." Icekit knew that no matter how much she tried to convince the leader that it was what she really saw, it would not convince Thistlestar. After all, Jayclaw was her kin.

Chapter 5

6 Moons after the terrible tragedy of Icekit's father's death..

Thistlestar has lost one of his lives so horribly it still hung in the air when he came around.

Flowertail licked Icekit pulling her out of her thoughts, "Look how much you've grown! I'd like to see how your father would react if he saw you!"

Skykit frowned at Icekit. "I guess you've grown... But you'll never be as big as me!"

"Don't speak to your kin like that, especially on the day you'll become apprentices!" Flowertail scolded Skykit. Icekit gazed outside the nursery. Snowkit was waiting patiently outside.

Thistlestar quickly jumped onto Clanrock and yowled, "All cats old enough to catch their own prey, gather beneath the highrock for a clan meeting!" Once everyone had settled down he continued. "Today, we are welcoming three new apprentices to the Clan! Snowkit, Skykit, and Icekit please meet under the highrock."

Icekit was shaking with excitement as she walked forward. She had been waiting for this moment for so long!

Don't mess this up, Icekit thought to herself

"Snowkit, from this day on, you will receive your apprentice name. You will now be known as Snowpaw, your mentor will now be Hazelmist. I hope that Hazelmist will pass down all that she knows onto you," Thistlestar meowed.

Hazelmist walked toward Snowpaw and touched noses, whispering something that calmed Snowpaw's shaking legs.

Thistlestar mewed, continuing, "Skykit, from this moment on you

will be known as Skypaw. Your mentor will now be Jayclaw. I hope that he will bestow all of his knowledge upon you." Jayclaw then slowly and confidently walked up a touched noses with Skykit whispering in his ear so quietly that only Icekit, who was closest to them could hear, "I will make you the best fighter the Clans have seen."

Why did he say fighter not warrior? Icekit wondered, a little nervous, but she ignored it and looked up at Thistlestar.

It is my turn next!!! She thought excitedly.

"Finally, Icekit, your apprentice name will be Icepaw and your mentor will now be Frozenflower. I know Frozenflower will make you an amazing warrior." Icekit bounded up to Frozenflower a little quicker than she meant and touched noses. Frozenflower didn't tell her anything like the other mentors but as Icekit looked into her strong proud loving eyes she knew that Frozenflower would be the best mentor.

After the ceremony Snowpaw, Skypaw, and Icepaw walked over to the apprentice's den to choose a nest to sleep in. Grasspaw started walking up to Snowpaw and congratulated her. He then showed them the available dens and immediately Snowpaw and Skypaw chose their perfect nest, while Icepaw took longer thinking about what to choose. *Should I be closer to the entrance, or the back?*

"Unsure Icepaw? Cause' I can show you where to sleep!" Skypaw said playfully before running over to Icepaw and giving her a small cuff on the ear.

Grasspaw started to snicker as Snowpaw meowed playfully, "You guys are apprentices, you ought to be more mature. Like me!"

"Really? Well *I* don't think so!" Skypaw yelled. Skypaw then ran over to Snowpaw and he pinned her to the ground. Immediately Snowpaw swiped Skypaw in the face, claws sheathed, before taking advantage of Skypaw's distraction and escaping his grip. Snowpaw then jumped onto Skypaw and pinned him to the ground. Skykit and Snowkit tussled together in the den while Icepaw chose a den more near the back so she could get a bit of peace and quiet, but

still being able to hear and see the new drama around the clan. When Snowpaw and Skypaw finished their game Grasspaw padded up to Snowpaw.

"Do you want to be friends?" Grasspaw asked Snowpaw in an excited voice. Icepaw felt a bit of resentment since she had never been asked to be friends with someone.

"Sure!" Snowpaw replied happily, not noticing Icepaws ruffled fur.

"Icepaw!" Yelled Frozenflower, "It is time for your first duty!"

Finally! Icekit thought. Icekit trotted out of the den towards Frozenflower. The blue-gray she-cat flicked her tail to Icepaw messaging for her to follow her. As they headed out of the camp, Icepaw got flooded with new scents. Icepaw looked around and saw the sunlight flickering through the trees and the birds gently twittering in the trees. It was beautiful!

"Today, I am going to show you around the territory," Frozenflower announced. Icepaw was somewhat disappointed but also anxious, the last time she had left camp was when she saw the terror of her father being murdered by Jayclaw, who happened to be Skypaw's mentor.

Frozenflower continued, "Afterwards, if we still have time, you could replace the elders' bedding."

Aw, I just became an apprentice and I am already going to do the elder's bedding? Icepaw complained silently.

"But first, I am going to show you the ShadowClan and RiverClan borders," Frozenflower meowed excitedly.

After walking around the entire territory of Thunderclan Icepaw's pads were sore and the sun was setting.

"Grab some fresh kill and share tongues with your litter mates," Frozenflower meowed, flicking her tail towards Grasspaw, Snowpaw, and Skypaw sitting together. Icepaw smiled at Frozenflower and dipped her head silently thanking her before heading toward the freshkill pile. Icepaw rummaged through the

pile and found a plump mouse to share with Snowpaw, but as she looked over she saw Snowpaw already sharing a shrew with Grasspaw. Skypaw was sitting close to Snowpaw, but Icepaw could tell that he wasn't very involved in the conversation. Icepaw was tempted to walk over and sit with Skypaw, but she didn't want to spend time with Skypaw after how he had treated her when they were kits.

"Icepaw, over here!" Whitepaw yelled from behind Icepaw pulling her out of her thoughts. She trotted over to Whitepaw and settled a tail length away from him. Whitepaw had never talked to her before and she didn't understand why he was talking to her now, but as she looked into his ice blue eyes she felt warm and safe.

Chapter 6

Icepaw had known Whitepaw as some ambitious, but quiet apprentice. His mother, Breezepelt had always seemed so mean. Coldtail told her that Breezepelt had always been rude, but once she was expecting kits, she seemed so... so, horrible. No one knew who Whitepaw's father was. Icepaw had never talked to Whitepaw, she had always feared that if she talked to him he would be just as cold and snappy as his mom. But now that Icepaw was close she couldn't see why she had always been almost afraid of him, she felt kind of bad for him. She had never seen any of the apprentices ever actually talk or joke around with him. *He must be so lonely.* Icepaw though. "So, how is training going?" Whitepaw asked. "Pretty good so far. You?" Icepaw said. "Good." Whitepaw shrugged. Icepaw gulped up her food, she wanted to go visit the nursery, since Lina had her kits. "I got to go, I will talk to you later!" Icepaw meowed to Whitepaw. Icepaw then started padding to the nursery. She could hear Lina talking to Morningfur. "Oh my gosh! These kits are so hyper!" Lina meowed to Morningfur. Icepaw stuck her head into the nursery, and she saw the two tiny kits playing with their mother's tail. *Aww, they are so cute!* Icepaw thought. "What are their names?" Icepaw asked. "The little dark gray tom is Stonekit and the light gray she-kit is Smokekit." Lina mewed proudly. "They will make such a great addition to the Clan!" Icepaw meowed. Morningfur was behind her and she could hear the brown tabby she-cat purring. "You got that right," Morningfur said. Icepaw headed out of the Nursery and she went to her nest to sleep.

Sleep came quickly for Icepaw. When she woke up she realized that it was still dark outside. But when she looked around she realized that she wasn't even in the Apprentices Den! It was like she just sleep walked all the way to ShadowClan territory, but it was much quieter and scary. She could hear faint whispering from someone in the forest. *Where am I?* Icepaw trotted over to the voice in hope for some explanation but then she saw Skypaw talking to some cat that she had never seen before. Icepaw opened her mouth to ask Skypaw what this place was but then she heard the mysterious cat talking.

"Time to stop talking, and now let's practice!" The cat leaped towards Skypaw, but Skypaw was too quick and he bounded out of the way. Skypaw then scratched the cat on its shoulder. Icepaw winced. *That must hurt!* The other cat then turned around and bounded towards Skypaw, knocking him down and then dealt a hard blow to Skypaw's chest. Skypaw shot up, Icepaw could tell that he had a little limp. Skypaw scratched the cat again but this time on his back and the cat fell. "Haha! I beat you!" Skypaw announced triumphantly. Then the cat dashed up and made a deep scratch on Skypaw's side. "Never assume victory until you're sure that your opponent is...dead." The cat meowed in a morbid tone. Icepaw could see blood trickling out of his side, how is Skypaw even standing?

When Icepaw woke up she was horrified about what had happened. *It was probably just a dream, it is just a dream.* Icepaw wanted to believe that so badly but when she looked at Skypaw sleeping in his nest, he was twitching. His claws were outstretched and he was breathing heavily. Icepaw gasped. *It wasn't a dream.*

Chapter 7

Frozenflower stuck her head into the apprentices' den. "Hey Icepaw, we are going on the dawn patrol. I'm sorry I didn't tell you this earlier," She said, "Wait, why are you already awake?" The blue-gray she-cat asked.

"Oh, I just had a bad dream, that is all." Icepaw replied. Icepaw padded out of the den, she almost stepped on Amberpaw but she quickly swerved out of the way at the perfect time.

Once Icepaw got out of the den she padded over too Frozenflower, who was waiting at the entrance of the hollow with Hazelmist, Cherrypelt, and Goldenstorm. Once Goldenstorm had seen that Icepaw had arrived he flicked his tail and they headed out of the camp. Icepaw's mind was filled with thoughts about what she had seen that night.

Where was I? Icepaw knew that, that place had seemed like somewhere that she had heard of before, but she didn't know what it was called.

Maybe I should see Sweettail and ask her about the place that she went to last night. When Icepaw was deep in her thoughts she ran into a tree. *Thud!*

"Icepaw! What are you doing! I almost had a juicy mouse, and then you go running into a tree, scaring it off!" Hazelpelt hissed at Icepaw.

"Sorry." Icepaw meowed quietly.

Once Icepaw's patrol was finished, she went to the middle of the clearing and sat there for a bit.

"Hey, are you all right?" Whitepaw asked. He padded up to her. "You have been just sitting there for a long time."

"Yeah, I'm just a bit tired, I was on the dawn patrol." Icepaw sighed.

"Oh ok, well do you want to go on a ShadowClan border patrol later with Fuzzyheart, Frozencloud, Breezepelt, and I?" Whitepaw asked.

"Sure." Icepaw replied dully. Icepaw yawned and hauled herself to the apprentice's den and she instantly fell asleep.

"Hey, the patrol will leave soon. Do you still want to go?" Whitepaw asked while gently shaking Icepaw.

"Yes, I just need to ask Frozenflower to come." Icepaw mewed.

"Ok, but hurry." Whitepaw said. Icepaw got to her feet and padded over to Frozenflower, who was just chatting with Robinheart.

"I want to go on a ShadowClan border patrol with Whitepaw, can we go?" Icepaw asked. Frozenflower looked at Icepaw and then got to her feet.

"Yeah, sure. I'm just going to tell Ivytail." Frozenflower meowed. Icepaw walked over to Whitepaw.

"I can go, Frozenflower is telling Ivytail that we are going." Icepaw said excitedly. When Frozenflower reached the front of the camp where the patrol waited at, they headed out.

Icepaw and Whitepaw were at the back of the patrol. "So, how has being an apprentice been like so far? I know that it has only been a couple of days, but I'm sure I could teach you some battle moves!" Whitepaw meowed playfully.

"It has been good, and also, I would love for you to help me." Icepaw answered. "I haven't even done battle training yet, I would sure like the help!" Icepaw whispered to Whitepaw.

"Hey!" Breezepelt barked, "You gossipers are following behind."

That badger tail, we aren't even that far behind. Icepaw thought indignantly. Right after Icepaw had finished that thought they reached the Thunderpath.

"I hate the smell of the Thunderpath, what were those twolegs thinking when they made this?" Whitepaw complained. "Stop complaining, if you don't want to be near a Thunderpath, go to RiverClan." Breezepelt mumbled. Breezepelt fluffed out her short fur and Icepaw could hear her mumbling something. "Breezepelt, stop being such a badger, especially to your own son. We are trying to go on a patrol and you are making it difficult." Fuzzyheart meows angrily. It made sense why he did this. Fuzzyheart was Whitepaw's mentor and they had some bond together. Breezepelt ignored his remark and she sped up. Fuzzyheart flicked his ears annoyed, but he didn't say anything else.

I feel so bad for Whitepaw, he must feel so embarrassed. Icepaw thought with pity. Icepaw looked at Whitepaw and she saw that he looked really sad. *His mother is so mean, I can't imagine what it was like when he was a kit!* Whitepaw is so sweet, you would never imagine that his mother is so cold. Icepaw sniffed the air and she smelled a thrush. "Hey, there is a thrush nearby, can I go try to hunt it?" Icepaw asked Frozenflower. "Sure. You just make sure that you are quick!" Frozenflower said.

Icepaw focused all of her senses to try and locate where the thrush was. Icepaw padded to some brambles and she saw the thrush near. It was sitting on a small rock, pecking at some fallen leaves; in search of food. *Perfect!* Icepaw thought with joy. Icepaw got in her hunters crouch and slowly snuck up to the thrush. *Crack!* A branch broke from behind her and the thrush was gone in a flash! Icepaw shot up and looked behind her. Whitepaw was awkwardly standing a fox-length behind her. "Sorry," he mumbled, "when I saw that you left I went to follow you. I should've played more attention." "Oh, it is all right." Icepaw mewed. Whitepaw and Icepaw went back to the patrol, empty handed.

"Didn't get it?" Frozenflower inquired. "Yes, Frozenflower." Icepaw said sadly. "It is alright, I still miss some of my prey." Frozenflower meowed reassuringly. Icepaw looked at Frozenflower with gratitude, then she padded to the front of the patrol who were just placing some scent marks and looking for prey to eat. It felt like they had walked around half of the territory, but Icepaw knew that it wasn't true. The entire time Icepaw and Whitepaw were standing

side-by-side chatting.